

CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS

Week ending the 28th April 1888.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....
2	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
4	"Chandra Vilash"	Berhampore	.....
5	"Divakar"	Calcutta	.....
6	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah	.....
7	"Grambasi"	Ulaberia	.....
8	"Purva Bangabasi"	Noakhally	.....
9	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
10	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	"Apuva Dhan"	Calcutta	.....	18th April 1888.
12	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	20th ditto.
13	"Bangabasi"	Ditto	20,000	21st ditto.
14	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	17th ditto.
15	"Charuvarti"	Sherapore, Mymensingh	600	17th ditto.
16	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	.....
17	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	22nd ditto.
18	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	.....
19	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	20th ditto.
20	"Garib"	Dacca	.....	18th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	200	18th ditto.
22	"Jagatbasi"	Calcutta	.....	19th ditto.
23	"Murshidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	
24	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....	20th ditto.
25	"Navavibhakar Sadharani"	Calcutta	1,000	23rd ditto.
26	"Praja Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	20th ditto.
27	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	600	13th ditto.
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakini, Rungpore	205	19th ditto.
29	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	600	18th ditto.
30	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	20th ditto.
31	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	21st ditto.
32	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	13th ditto.
33	"Sarawat Patra"	Dacca	400	
34	"Som Prakash"	Calcutta	1,000	23rd ditto.
35	"Srimanta Saudagar"	Ditto	.....
36	"Sulabha Samachar and Kusadaha"	Ditto	3,000	20th ditto.
37	"Surabhi and Patika"	Ditto	700	19th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	"Dainik and Samachar Chandrika"	Calcutta	7,000	22nd, 23rd, 25th & 26th April 1888.
39	"Samvad Prabhakar"	Ditto	200	19th to 25th April 1888.
40	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
41	"Banga Vidy Prakashika"	Ditto	500	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	23rd April 1888.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
43	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Sámachār Patrikā."	Darjeeling	.....
44	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
45	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta	.....	21st ditto.
46	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
47	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	19th ditto.
48	"Śār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	23rd ditto.
49	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
50	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	350	20th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	.....
53	"Anis"	Patna	.....
54	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	198	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	Behar	150	
56	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	16th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	21st and 24th April 1888.
<i>Daily.</i>				
58	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	20th to 25th ditto.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Taraka and Subhavarṭā"	Cuttack	.....	April 1888.
60	"Pradīp"	Ditto	.....
61	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....	April 1888.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
62	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack	200	7th April 1888.
63	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Balasore	205	5th ditto.
64	"Uriya and Navasamvād"	Balasore	.....	11th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
65	"Silchar"	Silchar	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Paridarshak"	Silchar	450	16th ditto.

Names of newspapers	Place of publication	Reported number of subscribers	Dates of papers received and examined for the week
INDIAN AND BENGALI			
"Dacca Gazette" Weekly	Dacca	.....	28th April 1888
Hind			
Monthly			
"Duffell's Mission to Measik Samachar" Weekly	Darjeeling	.....
"Kabar's Patrika" Weekly	Patna	.....
"Aryavarta" Weekly	Calcutta	.....	21st date
"Behar Bandhan" Weekly	Bankee	.....	10th date
"Behar Mitra" Weekly	Calcutta	1,500	10th date
"Sahasrabandhi" Weekly	Ditto	500	23rd date
"Uttar Bahar" Weekly	Ditto	4,500	
"Hind Samachar" Weekly	Bhagnipore	1,000	
"Jain-Jahid-Nama" Weekly	Calcutta	250	20th date
"Afzal Alam Atrah" Weekly	Atrah	.....
"Anis" Weekly	Patna	.....
"Gadhar" Weekly	Calcutta	100	
"Shah-al-Akbar" Weekly	Behar	150	10th date
"Al Punch" Weekly	Bankee	.....
"Abhar-darshanant" Weekly	Calcutta	340	21st and 24th April 1888
"Uttar Guide" Weekly	Calcutta	212	20th to 24th date
"Tata and Subhanta" Monthly	Calcutta	.....	April 1888
"Pradip" Monthly	Ditto	.....	April 1888
"Samyabadi" Monthly	Ditto	.....	April 1888
"Uttar Dipika" Weekly	Calcutta	300	7th April 1888
"Balasore Samachar" Weekly	Balasore	305	5th date
"Uttar and Navasamachar" Weekly	Balasore	.....	11th date
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM			
"Eikhar" Weekly	Shihar	.....
"Paridarsan" Weekly	Shihar	450	10th date

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 17th April, draws the attention of the Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh, to the case of Haji Mandal, of Kaijarchar, pergunnah Pukhria, within the jurisdiction of the Jamalpore station, against—

CHÁRU VARTÁ,
April 17th, 1888.

- (1) Kali Krishna Ghosh, Sub-Inspector of the Jamalpore police-station ;
- (2) Sankat Dichit, constable attached to the Jamalpore station ;
- (3) Kamini constable ;
- (4) Bharat Chakravarti.
- (5) Araja, constable of the Jamalpore police-station ; and
- (6) Twenty-five or thirty other chowkidars.

2. The *Apurvadhan*, of the 18th April, publishes several letters from correspondents, stating that Baboo Kedar Nath De, Sub-Inspector of the Dhanekhali thannah,

APURVADHAN,
April, 18th, 1888.

The Dhanekhali murder case. in the district of Hooghly, who has been deputed to investigate the murder of the 13th August, instead of taking proper steps to detect the murderers, is utilising the opportunity by taking bribes from the friends, relations, and fellow-villagers of the deceased, and by angling and holding nightly revels. The following is a list of the persons who have been compelled by fear of torture to give bribes to the Sub-Inspector:—

Name.	Amount of the bribe.	Name of his village.
	Rs.	
Dvari Santra ...	5	Mouza Bansipur and Parvatipur.
Mahes Santra ...	80	Ditto.
Sáti, a Kaivarta ...	41	Ditto.
Gopal, a boatman ...	13	Ditto.
Kailas, a chowkidar ...	45	Ditto.
Krittivasa, Mundle ...	50	Ditto.
Premchand ...	10	Ditto.
Mahendra ...	12	Ditto.
Total ...	336	

The person through whose agency the Sub-Inspector is collecting bribes is one Bholanath Chatterjee of Bansipur. The Sub-Inspector must have at least four or five bottles of wine every night. If he gets less than that, the chowkidars of the village of Bansipur are required to bring the remaining quantity from Bahadurpur at dead of night. Baboo Rohini Kumar Bose also came to investigate this case, but his investigation went no further than taking some fish and edible roots from the villagers. A case of so much importance should be investigated either by the Police Inspector or by the District Superintendent of Police.

3. The *Bangabást*, of the 21st April, says that of late oppression of the drivers of hackney carriages by the Police has increased in Calcutta. The Police take carriages to the thannah with all their passengers, and carriages occupied by female passengers are not exempted from such treatment. The Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, is requested to look to the matter.

BANGABAST
April 21st, 1888.

4. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, complains that gambling with three cards has increased in the public streets and markets of Jorehat in Assam. The Assistant Commissioner of that place is therefore requested to make a

SANJIVANI
April 21st, 1888.

careful enquiry into the matter, and to bring the gamblers to justice as soon as possible.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 26th, 1888.

5. A correspondent of the *Dainik* and *Samachar Chandrika*, of the 26th April, complains of increase of thefts at Senhati, a village in the Khulna district. Are the village chowkidars asleep?

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 19th, 1888.

6. The *Surabhi* and *Patáka*, of the 19th April, gives the following summary of what it considers to be the secrets of the Tangail case:—

- (1). When the complaint against the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail was made, Mr. R. C. Dutt, Magistrate of Mymensingh made an enquiry and submitted a report to the Commissioner, giving it as his opinion that both the Deputy Magistrate and the Police had committed the offences with which they had been charged. But the Commissioner wrote a memorandum on the report absolving both the Deputy Magistrate and the Police.
- (2). The decision of the Sessions Judge created quite a stir among the authorities, and it was at their suggestion and through their effort that the case was carried before an Appellate Bench of the High Court.
- (3). Though the appeal was made by the Police Sub-Inspector Ramkumar Baboo, and the Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Sasisekhar, was only a witness in the case, the costs of the appeal will be borne by Government.
- (4). The Judges of the High Court gave their decision orally on the 23rd March, and the written judgment was not out till some days later. But the Government minute on the case was out on the 24th March! So it need not be told at whose inspiration the minute was written.
- (5). Mr. Evans, who conducted the appeal on behalf of the Police, is well known to the public as the man who, since the time of the Ilbert Bill, has become the chief adviser of both the Supreme and Provincial Governments; and it is he who has, in the present case, drawn everybody into his net.

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1888.

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, publishes the following charges against the Deputy Magistrate of Kissoregunge in Mymensingh.

- (1). The Deputy Magistrate tried his best to prevent any man of an independent spirit from being appointed as Chairman of the Kissoregunge Municipality, and employed the tax-darogah to secure votes for himself for the Chairmanship. He also invited five or six Commissioners to his house and requested them to vote for him.
- (2). The Deputy Magistrate was ordered to make a local enquiry in a very important case instituted by Rajabali Sheikh. The Deputy Magistrate made no local enquiry, but submitted a report stating that he had made it.
- (3). A mukhtear having incurred the Deputy Magistrate's displeasure by doing an illegal act, the Deputy Magistrate insulted all the mukhteers practising in his Court, and did not allow them to sit in his Court for some days.

- (4). The Deputy Magistrate, while talking with respectable zemindars, does not ask them to sit, and keeps them standing for hours. At another time, when a proposal was made to him to increase the salary of a deserving teacher of the local school, the Deputy Magistrate remarked as follows:—"Why should I buy an ox for Rs. 16 when it can be had for Rs. 15"?

8. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 23rd April, says that the natives of this country have repeatedly asked

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 23rd, 1888.

The Calcutta Jury List for 1888-89. Government to extend the system of trial by jury all over the country. Native jurors understand Indian cases better than European jurors, and it is therefore desirable to increase the number of native jurors. But the Calcutta Jury List for 1888-89 has disappointed the writer. Out of 262 persons in the Special Jury List, only 77 are natives, and the remaining 185 are Europeans, and in the General Jury List out of 1,828 persons, only 768 are natives, and the remaining 1,040 (*etc*) are Europeans.

(d)—Education.

9. The *Sahachar*, of the 18th April, wants to be informed of the result of the Larpent Commission, and cannot understand why the Government of India

SAHACHAR,
April 18th, 1888.

The Larpent enquiry.

should be so long over such a petty affair as this.

10. The *Garib*, of the 18th April, is glad to find that Mr. Martin, the highly unpopular Inspector of Schools,

GARIB,
April 18th, 1888.

Baboo Dina Nath Sen as Inspector of Schools.

Eastern Circle, has been transferred from Dacca, and Baboo Dina Nath Sen has been appointed in his place. It will give the writer great pleasure if Baboo Dina Nath is confirmed in his new post.

11. The same paper remarks that Gopi Mohan Baboo, the Head-master of the Dacca East Bengal Institution, will not be able to throw dust in the

GARIB.

Baboo Gopi Mohan Basak, of the East Bengal Institution, Dacca.

eyes of such a man as Sir Alfred Croft. The truth will come out. The explanation submitted by Gopi Baboo cannot mislead the just, able, and conscientious Sir Alfred Croft. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to take the evidence of Akshay Baboo, a teacher of the East Bengal Institution, of Sashi Baboo, one of the Professors of the Dacca College, and of Jaga Bandhu Baboo, Head-master, Dacca Normal School. Their evidence will throw much light on the case.

12. The *Bangabasi*, of the 21st April, says that what the country now expects from the Sanskrit Titles Examination

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

The Sanskrit Titles Examination.

is a goodly supply of men well versed in Hindu religious and philosophical literature, for it is such men, in preference to all others, that are needed in the present state of social disorganisation in Bengal. But that examination is giving the country more men in literature than in religion and philosophy, and so it is not doing for the country what it is justly expected to do. It is deeply to be regretted that the number of candidates in Hindu logic at that examination seldom exceeds half a dozen, whilst the number of candidates in literature is so large as 60 or 70. The Titles Examination is thus practically an examination in Sanskrit literature, which it should not be, because Sanskrit literature is already well cared for by the University. Mahamahopadhyaya Mahes Chandra Nyayaratna is requested to see that the Titles Examination, which owes its institution to him, does not fail to do for the country what the country expects from it.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 23rd, 1888.

DAINIK AND SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.
April 26th, 1888.

SANSODHINI
April 13th 1888.

PRATIKAR,
April 13th, 1888.

SAMACHAR,
April 18th, 1888.

SAMAYA,
April 20th, 1888.

SAMAYA.

13. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 23rd April, will be glad if Baboo Dina Nath Sen's confirmed in his new appointment as Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle.

14. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 26th April, says that the Senhati School in the district of Khulna should be reduced to the status of a middle vernacular school as before. Many poor boys of the village appear at the Mukhtearship Examination after passing the middle vernacular scholarship examination, and the raising of the status of the school will prove prejudicial to their interests.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

15. The *Sansodhini*, of the 13th April, says that when the District Judge of Chittagong has condemned the action of the District Engineer of Chittagong, and has decided that Chandrakant Baboo, the contractor, should get his dues for work done by him, the District Board of Chittagong was under no necessity whatever to call upon the District Engineer to explain his action in the matter (for particulars see Weekly Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 24th March 1888, paragraph 27). The District Engineer has done wrong in getting the work done by one person and paying the money to another. The District Engineer has on several occasions wasted large sums of public money in this way, and the Board has all along paid such moneys out of the public fund at its disposal; and does it, by calling for a fresh explanation in Chandrakant's case, mean to practically ignore the opinion of the District Judge and to pay out of the public funds what the District Engineer ought to be made to pay from his own pocket? This is really bad. Mr. Manson, the Magistrate of Chittagong, is requested to look to the matter.

16. The *Pratikar*, of the 13th April, disapproves of the action of the Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality in stopping the municipal *mehter* service. The result of this will be that the *mehters* will demand exorbitant pay from the owners of privies, and the work, moreover, will not be well done because the number of *mehters* is small. The Municipal authorities will also put the rate-payers to trouble if they find drains or privies unclean. Already the Municipal Inspectors have commenced their work of oppression by making a rigorous inspection of privies and drains. The Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality are therefore requested to make better arrangements for *mehter* service.

17. The *Sachar*, of the 18th April, says that all Indian Governors ought to follow the example of Lord Connamara who has called upon the Municipality of Salem to explain why, before incurring any expenditure for his reception, it did not take the permission of his Government for so doing.

18. The *Samaya*, of the 20th April, referring to the Kyd Street accident, says that the Calcutta Municipality should see that the owners of dilapidated houses are compelled either to pull them down or to get them repaired.

19. A correspondent of the same paper hopes that as cholera is raging severely at Gonda, in the district of Baraich, the officers of the local Municipality will keep a keen eye upon the poor people of the place.

20. The *Bangabási*, of the 21st April, says that the recent Kyd Street accident has created quite a sensation in Calcutta, and many people are asking the Calcutta Municipality to examine the condition of all old houses within the town. But if the Municipality takes it upon itself in right earnest to do this, it will do more harm than good. For, in that case, great oppression will be committed upon house owners on the plea of doing good work for them. The new Municipal Bill is going to bind the owners of houses hand and foot and in the tightest manner possible; and any addition to those restraints and restrictions will be simply unbearable to the owners of houses.

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

21. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 22nd April, hopes that, in order to prevent scarcity of water at the bazar at Lakshmitollah, in Santipore, during the time of the *hát*, the authorities should at once sink a well.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 22nd, 1888.

22. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 23rd April, says that only Rs. 1,600 has been allotted in the Dacca Municipal Budget for the official year 1888-89 for watering the streets of that town. But that sum will be quite insufficient for the purpose.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 23rd, 1888.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

23. The *Bangabási*, of the 21st April, says that the judgment passed by the High Court in the Meherpore fishing case has dealt a severe blow to the exclusive rights of zemindars in *jalkars*. Reports were received at the latter end of Chaitra last that the ryots of different places in the Nuddea district are catching fish in the *beels* with impunity to their heart's content. A rumour was also circulated about that time to the effect that Government had given permission to the ryots to catch fish in the *beels* and *khals*. The British Indian Association, the recognised organ of the zemindars of Bengal, have prayed to the Lieutenant-Governor to amend the law relating to fishing rights; but no order has as yet been passed on their petition. The matter is a very pressing one, and prompt measures should be taken to amend the existing law relating to *jalkars*.

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including, canals and irrigation.*

24. The *Pratikár*, of the 13th April, is glad to learn that the Government is going to extend the Tarakesvar Railway line to Jehanabad. But the writer is sorry to find that the construction of the Ranaghat-Bhogobangola Railway line has not as yet been taken up. It was taken up some time ago, and a large amount of money was spent. But it was stopped on the plea of the Cabul war. Government should at once resume work on this very important line.

PRATIKAR,
April 13th, 1888.

25. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 21st April, complains of irregularity in the supply of drinking water to the native passengers on the East Indian State Railway line. The *Pani Panday* does not respond to the calls of the passengers, and the water which he does supply is often found to be rather warm and unfit to be drunk.

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

26. The same paper learns from the *Englishman* newspaper that on the 17th March last a carriage attached to a goods train was outrailed on the Bengal-North-

BANGABASI.

Western Railway, and in that condition was dragged seven miles. The two guards and the driver who were in the train knew nothing of this! Thus, the train narrowly escaped a most serious disaster. It is a pity that passengers have to trust their lives and property to the keeping of such careless men. The authorities should carefully look to the matter.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 22nd, 1888.

27. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 22nd April, says that the pilgrims who were recently coming to Dacca for the purpose of the *Ashtami* bath were subjected to great inconvenience, because the starting of the train at Narayangunge was delayed by several hours. Many people, tired of waiting, walked to Dacca, and many who did not do so were smuggled into a goods train. Government has been a loser on this account.

Again, as the ferries at Narayangunge, Madangunge and Rikabibazar had the service of one steamer only, and as no provision was made beforehand to carry the large number of pilgrims who had collected at the Rikabibazar ferry, some of the pilgrims had to go away disappointed, and the District Board of Dacca, which maintains the ferry, suffered some loss in consequence. Another notable circumstance in connection with this ferry affair was that the keepers of private ferries at Rikabibazar were prevented by threats of fines from ferrying people over.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 22nd, 1888.

28. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 22nd April, gives the following account of an accident to a passenger train, with the view of showing how negligently railway guards do their duty:—On leaving the Maiyora station in the North-Western Provinces, a carriage attached to the brake-van of No. 4 up passenger train got derailed without being perceived by anybody at the time. However the train managed to go to the next station, 7 miles from the place of the accident, dragging the derailed carriage along with it. Between the station and the place of the accident is a bridge, and when the train was crossing the bridge, the derailed carriage got so near its edge that it was pure chance that it did not fall over the bridge carrying the whole train with it. Government and the Railway authorities should make a careful enquiry and take proper preventive and punitive measures.

(h).—General.

CHARTVARTA,
April 17th, 1888.

29. A correspondent of the *Charuvarta*, of the 17th April, contradicts the statements made in a previous issue of this paper regarding the Sub-Registrar of Sherepore in Mymensingh (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for week ending the 14th April 1888, paragraph 36).

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

30. The *Bangabasi*, of the 21st April, says that some time ago it was notified in the Government Gazette that the editors of vernacular newspapers would be supplied with official papers. But the editors now get only the Bengal Administration Report. Will Sir Steuart Bayley enquire why other reports or official papers are not supplied to them? The Government ought to place all sorts of correct information in the possession of the native editors, in order that they may be able to criticise the action of Government in a fair and impartial way. Lord Ripon issued a circular directing the supply of all official papers to the vernacular editors; but that circular has not been given effect to. Most of the official papers are published in the *Gazette of India* and in the *Calcutta Gazette*, but the native editors are not supplied with the *Calcutta Gazette*. They are only supplied with the *Gazette of India*. Sir Steuart Bayley is requested to issue the necessary orders for the supply of the *Calcutta Gazette* to the native editors.

The Government of Bengal has been repeatedly requested for some years past to supply vernacular editors with copies of the Confidential Weekly Report on Native Papers. This request has been made on very good and valid grounds, but it is not yet granted. Sir Steuart Bayley is therefore again requested to supply the Weekly Report on Native Papers to the editors of vernacular newspapers.

31. The same paper says that some one suspecting that there was money in the Chorghat Post Office in Dinagepore, murdered the Postmaster in the hope of being able to carry off the treasure unmolested. In view of such an occurrence as this, it behoves Government to appoint policemen as guards at these mofussil post offices.

BANGABAST,
April 21st, 1893.

32. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, says that the Board of Revenue has in a recent circular ruled that vendors of Court-fee stamps should get a commission of one pice for a Court-fee stamp worth one rupee and a commission of only half a pice per rupee for stamps of higher values. Under this rule, the vendors will lose much and Government will get only $12\frac{1}{2}$ annas for every hundred rupees worth of Court-fee stamps. If the present vendors therefore cease to sell Court-fee stamps, the Government will probably have to maintain officers for the sale of such stamps, and those officers will cost Government more than what the vendors are now taking in the shape of commission. Formerly vendors of ordinary stamps used to get a commission of Rs. 4; they now get a commission of only Rs. 3-2. They therefore make up for the loss by exacting for each stamp an anna or so in addition to its proper price. The Board of Revenue is therefore requested to reconsider the matter.

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1893.

33. The same paper says that the limitation of fermenting jars in outstills does not produce the desired effect. Besides the fermenting jars allowed by the Board, brewers have to keep other jars for other purposes connected with the work of distillation; and brewers may easily use these jars for the purpose of fermenting liquor without being detected, for liquid treacle looks so nearly like treacle made from date-juice mixed with a small quantity of water and yeast that it is impossible to distinguish between the two; and detection is all the more difficult because unmixed liquid treacle often ferments on the surface like treacle mixed with water and yeast. The writer found this out in the Chanditollah outstill. Brewers may also ferment liquor surreptitiously at other places without any chance of detection. Opinions of Collectors to this effect are quoted in the Board's letter No. 743 $\frac{1}{2}$ B, dated the 2nd November 1885, to the Bengal Government. There are also other ways in which brewers can make the limitation as to the number of fermenting jars practically useless. The local monthly consumption of liquor at Kantapukur for the ensuing year has been fixed at 35 gallons, and the brewer has been allowed 14 fermenting jars of one maund capacity each for the winter. The Board's supposition is that liquor ferments in the winter in 12 days and in the summer in 8 days. But many officers are of opinion that liquor ferments in the winter in less than 12 days. It is indeed impossible to ascertain the exact time in which liquor ferments. Thus, supposing liquor to ferment in winter in 8 instead of 12 days, and supposing the quantity of treacle in each fermenting jar to be, according to the Board's rule, one-third of its entire contents, the 14 jars will enable the brewer to distil 52.5 gallons of liquor, that is, 27.5 gallons in excess of what he is authorised to distil. As exposure to the sun promotes fermentation, the Board requires brewers to keep the fermenting jars in covered places. But brewers often disregard this rule, and promote fermentation by keeping the jars in the sun.

SANJIVANI.

URDU GUIDE,
April 21st, 1888.

84. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 21st April, says that Government has shown due consideration for the different members of the family of the late ex-King of Oudh in granting them pensions. But the pensions granted to the *Khas* Begum and to Prince Jahan Kudar are considered to be inadequate.

ARYAVARTA,
April 21st, 1888.

85. The *Aryavarta*, of the 21st April, says that the British Government has done many good things for the people of India. But it does not pay sufficient attention to the construction of roads and to the establishment of schools in out-of-the-way places, although the Road and Public Works cesses are rigorously collected from the people.

URDU GUIDE,
April 23rd, 1888.

86. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 23rd April, says that the introduction of the system of competitive examination for making appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service has practically closed the doors of that service against the Mahomedans. No Mahomedan candidate succeeded at the last examination. But Government should consider that success at a competitive examination does not necessarily make one a good officer, and that among the Mahomedans who have failed, there are many who, if appointed, will perform the duties of a Deputy Magistrate as well as any of the passed candidates.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 26th, 1888.

87. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 26th April, referring to the Tangail case, says that in dealing with this case, the Executive appears to have thought more about the maintenance of its own prestige than about its truly kingly duty of punishing the guilty. This is made out by the fact that the Commissioner of Dacca himself undertook to get Baboo Sashi Sekhar Dutta exculpated, although he had been reported against by the Magistrate, Mr. R. C. Dutt, that the Inspector-General of Police himself took up the cause of the Sub-Inspector, Ram Kumar, and that the Bengal Government itself did so unusual a thing as publishing its minute exculpating the Deputy Magistrate on the very day following the acquittal of the Sub-Inspector in the High Court. The action of Sir Stuart Bayley in this case will have a very mischievous effect on the subordinate administration; for the acquittal of Baboo Sashi Sekhar will be an encouragement to all oppressive Deputy Magistrates.

III—LEGISLATIVE.

SAMACHAR,
April 18th, 1888.

88. The *Samachar*, of the 18th April, points to the discussion on the new Municipal Bill in the Bengal Council as illustrating the necessity which has now arisen of re-constituting the Indian Legislative Councils on a representative basis. As things now stand, the native members of the Legislative Councils, being in the minority, are defeated at every turn by the official majority, who carry things just as they like in the teeth of opposition, however just or strong, from their native colleagues. To give one example. About a hundred sections of the new Municipal Bill have been altered or modified in the Bengal Council. But in no instance has alteration or modification been made at the instance of the native members; every proposal of the native members has, on being put to the vote, been declared to be lost. It seems as if the European members of the Council have entered into a conspiracy for the purpose of throwing out the proposals of their native colleagues. But why say "it seems?" It is certain that the European members have done

this. Like the Tories in England, who have formed a clique amongst themselves to oppose the Home Rule movement, these European members of the Bengal Council have combined to thwart the cause of self-government in Calcutta. Indeed, the discomfiture of the independent native members of the Council over the Calcutta Municipal Bill has been so complete and has been brought about so unfairly, that, according to many, they ought to resign their seats in the Council instead of continuing to hold them under such circumstances as these.

It is certain that the predominance of official members in the Council will continue so long as the Council is not remodelled on a representative basis; and so far as this Calcutta Municipal Bill goes, this official predominance is found to be productive of unqualified mischief. Indeed the municipal law framed by Sir Richard Temple for the town of Calcutta, instead of becoming better under Sir Steuart Bayley, is becoming worse through the conspiracy of the Anglo-Indian members of the Council. There is at present no means of coping with this combination of the official members. The other day the rate-payers of Calcutta sent their delegates to His Honour protesting against some of the provisions of the Municipal Bill, but to no purpose. His Honour gave the usual reply that Government ought not to re-open questions which had been settled by a majority of the Council. Now this "majority of the Council" is a very curious thing. Everybody understands by the term, the official and the non-official Anglo-Indian members of the Council; and everyone, from the Governor-General downwards, who uses the expression, knows that what is done in the name of this majority is some preconcerted and predetermined thing, and that the process of making a Bill pass through the Legislative Council is nothing more or less than a farce. But the people of India have now ceased to delight in such farces, and they now want to see their representatives in the Legislative Councils treated with greater honour and regard. They have consequently felt deeply aggrieved at the discomfiture of the native members of the Bengal Council over the Calcutta Municipal Bill, and they do not certainly desire to see their best men insulted in this way at every turn. They will therefore be glad if the Hon'ble Messrs. Bannerjee, Sarkar and Mitter resign their seats in the Council. The adoption of such a course by them will be as a lesson to the official members, and may induce the President of the Council to think of redressing the present unsatisfactory state of things. It is true that in the event of such resignation, the vacant seats will be at once filled up by men of the type of Raja Sivaprasad. But the people, it is certain, will feel no confidence in them.

It may be argued that, if the native members resign, the perverse editors of the Anglo-Indian newspapers, who are bitterly hostile to the cause of self-government in this country, will say that the natives have not yet become fit for self-government, and that the men who cannot brook opposition are not the men who should act in representative assemblies, and so on. But the reply to such a view of the matter is that the assembly does not deserve the name which consists of a permanent clique, in which the official members are all in all, and where independence and impartiality are not respected; and that an honest and honourable member of such an assembly would best consult his duty by ceasing to remain in it, thereby retiring from a situation which, while it gives him no opportunity of serving his country, only subjects him to much that is painful and humiliating. Let the native members of the Bengal Council, therefore, resign their seats and leave the Anglo-Indian and the official members masters of the situation as

even now they virtually are. And let no native accept a seat in any Legislative Council until the Legislative Councils are reconstructed on a representative basis.

SAMACHAR,
April 18th, 1888.

39. The same paper expresses itself satisfied with the polite tone in which Sir Steuart Bayley replied to the deputation of the Calcutta rate-payers, but does not approve of the arguments made use of by His Honour on that occasion. The amalgamation of Calcutta with the Suburbs is indeed desirable. But to make that an occasion for increasing or extending the rights of the birds of passage in this country, and for cutting down the rights of the people, is a course of action which will never commend itself to honest men. Again, to compare India with England, and on the strength of that comparison to justify the provision of the new law relating to Government's control over the Calcutta Municipality, is hardly fair; for there can be no real comparison between England and India, the Government in England being the Government of its own people, and the Government in India being the Government of a small Anglo-Indian bureaucracy.

Sir Steuart Bayley and the deputation on the Calcutta Municipal Bill.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 19th, 1888.

40. The *Surabhi and Patāka*, of the 19th April, thanks Sir Steuart Bayley for the desire he has expressed to place before his Council the memorial of the Calcutta rate-payers on the subject of the Municipal Bill, and says that there is no chance of any good coming from the decision of the Council in the matter. The real remedy in this matter lies with the people themselves, and not with the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor. When, at the beginning of the next year, the provisions of the Bill will come into operation, the rate-payers of Calcutta should decline to elect Commissioners, and the Commissioners too should decline to be elected. Then will be seen what Government and the enemies of the rate-payers can do. It is by this means that the rate-payers can ultimately compel Government to come to terms with them.

SULABHA SAMACHAR & KUSADANA,
April 20th, 1888.

The Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

41. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kusadana*, of the 20th April, says that, as one man has hitherto satisfactorily performed the duties of both the Commissioner of the Calcutta Police and the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, the provision made in the new Municipal Bill to give the two offices to two men seems to have no warrant in necessity of any kind, and will only lead to uncalled for increase of expenditure.

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1888.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

42. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, does not, like its other contemporaries, object to the following provisions of the Calcutta Municipal Bill:—

(1)—Section 122, which imposes a 5 per cent. rate upon the estimated cost of dwelling-houses, is a very good provision. It will do away with every anomaly now existing in connection with the assessment of rich men's houses. For those houses are now assessed more lightly than the houses of poor and middle class men; and it is very surprising that the poor rate-payers of Calcutta have joined with the rich in protesting against a provision which is so equitable from their own stand-point. Objection has also been taken to this provision by saying that it may serve as a deterrent to those who would otherwise build spacious rooms to live in, and that the cause of sanitation may thus suffer harm. But if the best way of improving the sanitary condition of the town be to clear *bustees* of all their poor occupants,

and to build thereupon palatial residences and to let those that build those residences pay only half as much in the shape of taxes as had been paid by the evicted poor, why not abolish the Municipality altogether, and declare the few rich men of the town its absolute proprietors?

- (2)—The sanitary sections, which will invest the Executive with the power to declare buildings to be overcrowded or unfit for habitation, are also very good and reasonable. If the provision as to overcrowding be condemned on the ground that its working may be attended with hardship to poor people, the very taxation of poor people must also be condemned; and if it be considered wrong not to allow a man to live in a house which is unfit for habitation, it must also be wrong to prevent the man from committing suicide who is about to do so, or to punish him for attempting to kill himself.

The writer agrees with the memorialists on the other points mooted by them.

43. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 23rd April, says that the highly popular ruler Sir Steuart Bayley will lose much of his popularity if he allows the Calcutta Municipal Bill to pass in its present objectionable form. Sir Steuart has been misled in this matter by the European members of the Council and his Secretaries.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
April 23rd, 1883.

44. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 23rd April, says that the Calcutta Municipal Bill, as amended by the Bengal Legislative Council, is entirely opposed to the principle of Local Self-Government. It is hoped that the promoters of the meeting held to protest against the Bill will not remain satisfied with submitting a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 23rd, 1883.

45. The *Som Prakash*, of the 23rd April, says that Sir Steuart Bayley's reply to the memorial presented by the deputation from the rate-payers of Calcutta on the subject of the new Calcutta Municipal Bill, though marked by great politeness, is wanting in that liberality and kindness of tone which usually characterise His Honour's utterances. His Honour said on the occasion that the memorialists had allowed the proper time for urging their objections against the Bill to pass, and that there was therefore small chance of their representations receiving such attention as they would have otherwise received. But it may be said that though the memorial has been presented late, still it cannot be said that there is even now absolutely no remedy for the evils complained of. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will deal with the remaining provisions of the Bill in such a manner as will satisfy the wants and wishes of the rate-payers of Calcutta.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 23rd, 1883.

46. The *Sār Sudhānidhi*, of the 23rd April, says that there should be more natives than at present in the Bengal Council to prevent their being out-voted.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
April 23rd, 1883.

47. The *Navavibhākar Sādhārani*, of the 23rd April, says that the silence and inaction of the Calcutta public in regard to the Municipal Bill would not

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 23rd, 1883.

have produced much mischief if that Bill had contained only one or two objectionable provisions. But the fact is the Bill bristles with objectionable provisions, and if it is passed into law the Calcutta public will have to live in a state of constant uneasiness. The burden of municipal taxation already weighs heavily upon the rate-payers; and if this Bill is passed, that burden

will become far heavier. There would have been something to say for this increase of taxation if there had been any likelihood of the comfort of the rate-payers increasing in proportion. But increased comfort is out of the question. Already the town is suffering from inadequate supply of water, and suffering on this score will increase after the passing of the Bill. It is also greatly to be feared that the Bill, if passed, will interfere with one of the most cherished social customs of the Hindus. There is a provision in it which empowers the Municipality to prevent over-crowding in houses; but what over-crowding will be taken to mean is not stated. Near relations among Hindus often put up with each other; and it is certain that Municipal Officers will use this provision of the law to object to the presence of such additional inmates in a house. So dreadful a law there never was nor ever will be. The Lieutenant-Governor has not listened to the protests of the people against this law, and it does not seem likely that his Council will do so. It is necessary therefore that a few thousands of the rate-payers of Calcutta and the Suburbs should gather round the Council-room on the day the Bill will be passed. And another thing should be done. There can be no doubt that the Bill will be passed. But as it must receive the Viceroy's assent before it can come into force, it will be well if a few eminent men of Calcutta and the Suburbs go to Simla, and there press His Excellency not to sanction the objectionable provisions of the Bill. If this is done, His Excellency may feel persuaded to strike out all such provisions.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
April 24th, 1888.

48. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 24th April, says that Sir Henry Harrison's attitude in the matter of the Calcutta Municipal Bill has alarmed the rate-payers of the town.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

PRATIKAR,
April 13th, 1888.

49. The *Pratikār*, of the 13th April, says that Lord Dufferin has returned from Rewa after killing some tigers in the forests in that State. But what has

His Excellency done to put down the ravages of the white tiger about which the Maharani of Rewa had submitted a report to His Excellency?

BHARAT MITRA,
April 19th, 1888.

50. Referring to the certificate granted to Sir Lepel Griffin, the *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 19th April, says that Lord Dufferin has not done well in disallowing a criminal prosecution of the *Amrita Bazar Patrikā*.

The certificate will not satisfy the public, and the taking by Government upon itself of the responsibility for Sir Lepel's acts will not amount in the eyes of the public to a demonstration of Sir Lepel's innocence.

SAMAYA,
April 20th, 1888.

51. The *Samaya*, of the 20th April, has heard that Luchman Das, ex-Minister of Cashmere, intends to obtain an interview with the Viceroy at Simla. Nobody can tell what the result of the interview

is likely to be. But considering how His Excellency is disposed towards his Political Officers, it is not unlikely that Luchman Das, the *protege* of the Cashmere Resident, Mr. Plowden, may gain something by visiting Lord Dufferin.

SAMAYA.

52. Referring to the Governor-General's visit to Rewa, the same paper observes as follows:—There is a prevailing belief in the State of Rewa that its treasury has been exhausted. If this belief

The Governor-General's visit to Rewa.

is incorrect, surely Major Barr is not the person who should have been

employed to dispel it. His Excellency would have done better if he had employed the agency of some disinterested person for this purpose. That no rejoinder was given to His Excellency's reply approving of the financial administration of that State was not because no rejoinder was possible, but because there was no time to prepare one within the few hours His Excellency stayed there. The Maharani could not obtain the interview which the Viceroy had promised to her, because His Excellency, unmindful of his promise, slept till the very moment of his taking train for departure from that State. The Black Hole massacre was perpetrated because Siraj-ud-doula was asleep at the time, and English historians have therefore painted Siraj-ud-doula in dark colors. And here is Lord Dufferin sleeping all the time that a noble Rajput lady, little heeding the dignity of her position and the honour due to her sex, is going all the way from her house to the railway station and waiting there for the favor of the interview he had promised to her! How will then English historians paint Lord Dufferin?

When the Governor-General was driving to the railway station, from two to three thousand people gathered along the road, and thousands of voices were heard piteously asking His Excellency to rescue them from the oppressions of the officers appointed by the Government. The noise made the Viceroy uneasy, and he asked some one about him what it meant. He to whom His Lordship referred told him that the people were shouting victory to him; and His Lordship had no doubt that that was so! Thus ended the Viceroy's visit to Rewa, and therefore the hope so fondly entertained that His Excellency would be able to see through the meshes of Sir Lepel's intrigues, and to put an end to the sorrows of the Dowager Maharani of Rewa, has been sadly blighted.

SAMAYA,
April 20th, 1888.

53. The same paper publishes a song in which Sir Lepel Griffin is represented as a child whom the Viceroy is consoling in something like the following way:—"Do not cry my babe, pouting your lips in that piteous way, and mind not what you have done. I quite like your doings, do such acts again and again, and dance merrily as you do so. Do not cry, my babe. I will burn the faces of those who have used hard words against you and I will ever pray that their tongues may be attacked with leprosy. Shake off your anger, my boy—I will take your guilt on my own shoulders. Take this my *hukumnama* and, be assured what you have done is precisely what I should have wished you to do. Fear none, and oppress the people as much as you can." The Viceroy is then represented as invoking imprecations on the heads of Sir Lepel Griffin's detractors, and reciting one of those nursery verses with which mothers in this country lull little children to sleep.

54. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 20th April, says that Lord Dufferin's letter to Sir Lepel Griffin has taken it by surprise. If Sir Lepel Griffin is really innocent of the offences charged against him, then the *Amrita Bazar Patrikā* must be admitted to have done a most unjust act for which he deserves to be severely punished; but instead of accusing the *Patrikā* of any offence for its articles on Sir Lepel, Lord Dufferin has contented himself with saying that he approves of that officer's doings in Bhopal; and that means that His Excellency's view of the Bhopal administration is practically the same as that of Sir Lepel. To tell the truth, Lord Dufferin has made a very weak exhibition of himself in connection with this Sir Lepel's affair. For if he really holds Sir Lepel innocent, why has he not ordered the prosecution of the *Patrikā*? His Excellency's decision in this matter has caused profound dissatisfaction among the people, many of whom say that if justice is thus maladministered within the English possessions, where is the difference between the English and the Russian rule?

PRAJA BANDHU,
April 20th, 1888

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

55. The *Bangabasi*, of the 21st April, says that the letter addressed by the Government of India to Sir Lepel Griffin, on the subject of the articles written in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* relating to Bhopal affairs, will fail to satisfy the public and to hush up the Bhopal scandals. What was there to prevent Sir Lepel himself from prosecuting the *Patrika* instead of asking Government to do so? The charges of the *Patrika* were not made against the Government, but against Sir Lepel, and Government has therefore done well in not sanctioning a criminal prosecution. If Sir Lepel Griffin fancies himself wronged, he should invite an inquiry, and if he comes out of it unscathed all public misapprehension regarding him will be removed. The Viceroy's certificate will not satisfy the public. It will make the weakness of Sir Lepel's case all the more apparent. The bar of public opinion is still open, though the door of Government enquiry has been closed.

But though Government has been wise in disallowing a criminal prosecution, the certificate it has granted to Sir Lepel will certainly prejudice its own good name. For the Government, while failing to satisfy the public about the justice and fairness of Sir Lepel Griffin's proceedings in Bhopal, has confessed itself a party to those proceedings. The *Patrika's* charges are definite and have been urged vigorously and persistently, and so a vague general contradiction thereof in a departmental letter will avail little against them.

Zulum and oppression on the part of the Political Officers is prejudicial to British rule in India, and Lord Dufferin has not therefore done well in endeavouring to maintain Civilian prestige by supporting the high-handed proceedings of Sir Lepel Griffin in Bhopal.

The Viceroy says :—"The Governor-General in Council is assured that the attitude of the Government in respect of Her Highness the Begum and her country needs no vindication against criticism which evinces a spirit of mere partizanship on behalf of an individual, and complete disregard for the people of Bhopal. The Governor-General in Council therefore holds that the interests of the Government would be in no way served by the institution of criminal proceedings against the newspapers containing the attacks to which you refer." It would have been better if this reference to the interests of the people of Bhopal had not been made; for everybody knows that references to popular interests when made by the British Government are generally meant to hide the existence of very selfish and wicked designs of its own. And will Government say what good the people of Bhopal have derived from the insulting treatment to which their Begum has been subjected in open durbar by Sir Lepel Griffin? Or from Sir Lepel's endeavour to represent the Begum as one who had gone mad? The high-handed proceedings of Sir Lepel Griffin in Bhopal may produce political danger, and it was with the view of averting such danger that the editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* as a loyal subject of the British Government brought them to light. But Lord Dufferin has chosen to take the whole matter in a very different light, and has disposed of it on the principle of might is right.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 22nd, 1888.

56. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 22nd April, says that, by supporting Sir Lepel Griffin, Government has confirmed the popular belief that Governors-General always make it a point to support the Political Officers who are attached to the Native States as against the rulers of those States; and the certificate given to Sir Lepel will have the effect of strengthening this belief. And who shall say that dangerous consequences will not result from the propagation of such a belief? All Central India is dissatisfied

with Political Officers of the type of Sir Lepel; and it is only the strong feeling of loyalty which the chiefs in that part of the country cherish towards the British Government and the Queen-Empress that enables them to keep themselves within bounds. They expect from the Government an affectionate treatment in return for their deep loyalty. But they will find in Lord Dufferin's justification of Sir Lepel a return of a very different kind from what they so ardently expect; and the result of this will be the growth of a feeling of dissatisfaction throughout the country. Government will thus find sooner or later that the Political Officers, who are the enemies of the Native States, are also the enemies of the British Government. Government may not attach much importance to what the poor editors of native papers are now saying on the subject, but it will in future find to its cost that their lucubrations were not after all idle or incorrect.

57. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 23rd April, says that, according to the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*, Lord Dufferin was in a manner compelled to give his letter of justification to Sir Lepel Griffin. It is said that on his return from England Sir Lepel wrote to His Excellency asking for a letter justifying his conduct in Bhopal. This the Viceroy declined to do. Thereupon Sir Henry Durand, Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, went to Indore with the view of saving his friend Sir Lepel, and a rough sketch of a letter of justification was then prepared. This sketch was submitted to the Viceroy for approval, and was rejected by him. Sir Lepel was then on the point of running mad in despair. His friends, however, who are many in number, came to his rescue at this stage. The Viceroy was bothered by these men day and night, and was ultimately, out of sheer vexation, made to give to Sir Lepel the certificate which has been published. But this certificate has failed to produce the desired effect. Indeed, thousands of certificates of this kind will not whitewash the man who is looked upon with suspicion and displeasure by 26 crores of Indians. Furthermore, by implicating the Government in the misdeeds of Sir Lepel, the certificate has created great popular dissatisfaction against the Government itself; and it is this popular distrust of the Government which, of all other things, should have been carefully guarded against by an experienced diplomatist like Lord Dufferin.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 23rd, 1888.

58. The *Navavibhakar Sadhárani*, of the 23rd April, says that Lord Dufferin is of opinion that the native press is wrong in criticising the acts of Sir Lepel Griffin in Bhopal, from the stand-point of the Begum alone ignoring the stand-point of the people of that State. Lord Dufferin is right as regards the stand-point of the native press. But is not the native press justified in protesting against Sir Lepel's interference in the internal affairs of Bhopal in contravention of the English Government's treaty with that State? The utmost that Sir Lepel could do was to advise the Begum; and so not even the taking by Lord Dufferin upon himself of the responsibility of Sir Lepel's acts will exculpate that officer. Some are praising Lord Dufferin for not permitting Sir Lepel to prosecute the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*; but the writer finds nothing in this to praise or to blame. He only sees that it has been a very politic act. A case against the *Amrita Bazar Patriká* would have led to more scandalous disclosures regarding the conduct of Political Officers than were witnessed in the Baroda trial.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI
April 23rd, 1888.

59. The *Sar Sudhánidhi*, of the 23rd April, says that Government has greatly disappointed the public by granting a certificate to Sir Lepel Griffin. People had thought that Sir Lepel would be punished by Government; and so they are surprised to find that, instead of punishing, Government has praised

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
April 23rd, 1888.

Sir Lepel. This amounts to encouraging the Civilian Officers of Government in the commission of acts of oppression in the Native States. The discontent which must be occasioned far and wide by this unwise action of Government will serve to weaken its position.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 17th, 1888.

60. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 17th April, says that between cholera and scarcity of water the people of Ranigunge are having a bad time of it just now. The new Town Council has not yet been formed, and no attempt has yet been made to cope with the disease whose ravages remain unchecked notwithstanding that the local Assistant Surgeon, Babu Radha Ramon, is doing his best to check them. As for scarcity of water, the sufferings of the people from this source have become very severe. The Bengal Coal Company, which possesses extensive zemindaries in these parts, is indifferent in the matter. And because the Company consists of some European merchants, the Government has apparently nothing to say to it on the subject of supplying the place with water. Mr. Oldham, Magistrate of Burdwan, is requested to look to the matter and ask the Company to excavate some tanks for the benefit of the people.

SAMAYA,
April 20th, 1888.

61. The *Samaya*, of the 20th April, hopes that the Magistrate of Moorshedabad will exert himself on behalf of those residents of the town whose houses have been destroyed in the fire which recently broke out there.

SAMAYA.

62. A correspondent of the same paper says that severe hailstorms, uprooting trees and razing houses to the ground, have passed over the village of Baniyachong in Sylhet. There is therefore no chance of a full *sali* crop being gathered this year. And as last winter's *amun* crop was partially destroyed by insects, it is likely that the people will feel considerably straitened this year.

SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSADAKA,
April 20th, 1888.

63. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaka*, of the 20th April, says that almost all the villages of Bengal suffer from scarcity of water during the summer months; and scarcity of water causes more suffering than scarcity of food. The country will therefore thank Government if it causes wells to be sunk in villages afflicted with scarcity of water with money from the Road Cess Fund.

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1888.

64. The *Bangabasi*, of the 21st April, says that the report of the existing scarcity in Manbhoom was first published in the *Englishman* newspaper some two months ago, and Sir Stuart Bayley visited that district shortly after the publication of that report. But it is curious that nothing has been since written about the scarcity in Manbhoom either in the *Englishman* newspaper or in the *Calcutta Gazette*. What does this mean? Is Government ignorant of the real state of things, or has it decided not to let the public know what the real state of things is.

The writer has, however, received from a correspondent the following account of the scarcity of food in that district:—

"Scarcity of food is daily increasing; most of the inhabitants of this district are poor, and their misery has increased on account of the scarcity. The sufferings of the people are most severe in Pergunnahs Baliana, Chowrashi, and Aror. There has been scarcity for the last two months.

People are living on one meal a day. They had expected that Government would come forward and open relief works for them. But Government is doing nothing for the distressed people, although it is fully aware of their miserable condition. The Government has only rendered very slight assistance in Mehal Pergunnah. Such meagre help will not do. Government should take timely measures to prevent a catastrophe."

Many ryots from Pergunnahs Baliana and Chowrashi are coming to Purnia in order to apply to the District Magistrate in person for *tsocavi* loans, and their long journey in this hot weather is in many cases proving fatal. Government has been given timely warning, and if it does not perform its duty it will be responsible for any loss of life that may occur.

Similar reports of scarcity on the coast of the Chilka Lake and in Khorda have been published in the *Gazette of India*, and Government has promised to publish further information on the subject. But no information has been since published. Government is therefore requested to publish as soon as possible all that it knows about the scarcity in Orissa.

65. A correspondent of the same paper says that the Magistrate of Pubna has done nothing to help the poor people of Bharenga and other villages in

The storm at Bharenga in Pubna.

that district which were recently visited by a tornado. More than one hundred wounded persons are still lying in a precarious condition, and they will probably die for want of medical aid. There is one native doctor in the village, and he cannot certainly attend to all the persons who are in need of medical aid. Will the members of the District and Local Boards do nothing to help these poor sufferers? Funds are being raised in aid of the distressed people, but no timely help has been rendered to them. The Magistrate of Pubna is requested to visit the country over which the tornado has passed, and to make a report to Government on the miserable condition of the people. If that is done Government will surely help the poor sufferers. The members of the District Board should also soon erect the school-house which has been levelled to the ground.

BANGABASI,
April 21st, 1893.

66. A correspondent of the same paper complains of scarcity of water at Kamrabad, a village near Sonarpore, in the 24-Pergunnahs district. The inhabitants of 16 villages use the water of the Napara Dighi for drinking purposes, but the water of that tank has now become impure in consequence of plants growing and rotting in it. The use of this impure water leads to outbreak of cholera, typhoid fever and small-pox.

BANGABASI.

67. Another correspondent of the same paper says that a tornado passed over Basira, a village near Bikrampore in Dacca. The injury done to life and property was very great. The authorities are appealed to on behalf of the poor villagers. A competent doctor and some pecuniary help are much needed by the poor sufferers.

BANGABASI.

68. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, says that Mr. Glazier, the Magistrate of Pubna, and the local Civil Surgeon have acted in a most apathetic manner towards the sufferers from the tornado at Mathura in Pubna. The Magistrate was asked more than once to send a native doctor to that place. But he did not do so until he received a telegram from the Chief Secretary to Government directing him to send medical help. The Magistrate did not report to Government that 500 persons would remain houseless for two months if they did not receive help from Government as the Inspector of Police represented to him. The Magistrate has told Government that the money which will be raised by local subscriptions will be sufficient for relief purposes. But subscriptions have up to this time amounted to only

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1893.

Rs. 105! And what will Rs. 105 do? Government aid is, in fact, sorely needed.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 22nd, 1888.

69. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 22nd April, complains of the ravages of tigers at Natagari and other villages within the jurisdiction of the Balagor police-station in the district of Hooghly, and hopes that the Magistrate of Hooghly will, without delay, take steps to kill the animals.

Tigers in the Hooghly district.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHARTVARTA,
April 17th, 1888.

70. The *Charuvarta*, of the 17th April, strongly condemns the proposal of the Commissioner of Dacca to apply Rajah Surya Kanta Acharya's gift of 50 thousand rupees to the town of Mymensingh to the purpose of providing that town with gas-light. What the town is most in need of is good drinking water, and whoever knows this should be ashamed of purchasing anything else with this money for the people of Mymensingh.

Rajah Surya Kanta Acharya's gift.

GARIB,
April 18th, 1888.

71. The *Garib*, of the 18th April, says that some more unofficial members should be added to the Committee appointed to disburse the Relief Fund in aid of the sufferers from the late tornado at Dacca. The present members are all too busy with their own official work to be able to properly attend to this additional duty.

The Dacca Relief Committee.

GARIB.

72. The same paper thanks the noble-minded Sir Steuart Bayley for issuing an order to the effect that no Government officer should in future call an Indian a *native*.

Sir Steuart Bayley.

GARIB.

73. The same paper, referring to the munificent gift of two thousand rupees made by Dr. Crombie in aid of the people who have suffered from the late tornado at Dacca, observes as follows:—

Dr. Crombie of Dacca.

“What have we got with which to adore the large-hearted Dr. Crombie? Our obligation to Dr. Crombie shall remain unredeemed even if we worship him with flowers of love smeared with blood from our hearts. He is a foreigner by birth and an alien in caste, creed, manners and customs. Still his noble heart melts in sorrow when we are sorry or distressed. A portion of his honestly earned wealth, wealth earned by saving human life, he has given away for the relief of the distressed; and he is himself seeking out all cases of real distress and is granting relief. Dr. Crombie, you are leaving behind you at Dacca a brilliant example of generous sympathy; and what is any wealth of this earth by the side of the wealth you are earning to-day?”

SAHACHAR,
April 18th, 1888.

74. The *Sahachar*, of the 18th April, says that scarcity of water is being felt at Simla, and remarks that it is the natives who suffer most from this cause year after year. While the *malis* and *khansamas* of the Europeans can get as much water as they want to water flower plants, the natives have to fight hard even for one glass of water.

Scarcity of water at Simla.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
April 20th, 1888.

75. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 20th April, says that some Mahomedans of Amayada, a village within the jurisdiction of the Khargram outpost in Murshidabad, committed a gross act of sacrilege on the 2nd Baisakh last by killing a cow and placing a garland made of small bits of its flesh round the neck of the goddess Basanti. The miscreants also placed the head of

A case of sacrilege in Murshidabad.

the slaughtered cow on the spot where the sacred earthen vessel is kept, and threw the flesh and bones of the animal into the houses of the Brahmins in the village. The village lies within the zemindari of Maharani Sarnamoyee. It is said that the Maharani has deputed a competent officer to make a careful enquiry into the matter. On the occasion of the last Durgapujah festival, some Mahomedans of the same village broke an image of the goddess Durga when it was being taken to be consigned to the water, and were punished for doing so. Every Hindu ought to see that the miscreants are brought to justice this time too.

76. The *Samaya*, of the 20th April, says that when Oudh was annexed, Government laid hold of the goods and furniture of its King and sold the same at two crores of rupees. The interest on that sum at 4 per cent. amounts to eight lakhs; and that is precisely the sum which the Government, since the annexation of Oudh, used to pay to the ex-King as his annual allowance. Now that the ex-King is dead, it has been decided to pay to his heirs as allowance only three lakhs of rupees a year. Well, this is not the first time that Government has displayed such extraordinary munificence and self-abnegation. Think only that the heirs of the man who fetched Government so large a sum as two crores are going to be deprived of their just allowance of 8 lakhs per year. If the ex-King of Oudh had been a private individual, would Government have dared to deprive his heirs of their just due? Can the Governor-General give any reasonable explanation why the heirs of the ex-King should not get eight lakhs a year?

77. The same paper publishes a correspondent's letter saying that the editor (?) of the *Englishman* newspaper recently sent a letter to Baboo Banbehari Kapur of Burdwan through Baboo Kali Prasanna Dey, the editor of the *National Magazine*, asking him to reward him handsomely for the services which he rendered to him during the discussion of the adoption case by advocating the claims of his minor son. The letter, which is written in red ink, bears the signature of T. C. Buckland, and has the words. "The *Englishman*, Office, Calcutta," printed at the top. The letter, also states that the writer had been promised a handsome remuneration. Baboo Banbehari has sent away the bearer of the letter, Baboo Kali Prasanna, without paying him anything, and he has therefore had to leave Burdwan in shame and disgrace.

78. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st April, says that a Christian Government should not encourage vice by maintaining camp women for its soldiers at a large cost. Mr. A. S. Dyer, a respectable European gentleman, writes that to a regiment which he found at Lucknow, and which was about to march for Dinagepore, prostitutes were attached, who were living in 13 separate tents. On enquiry he learnt that these women of ill-fame were travelling with the regiment at the expense of Government. Close to this regiment 72 prostitutes were found living in 72 rooms. They are maintained by Government at a large cost for the use of the soldiers permanently stationed at Lucknow. A woman showed a certificate granted by Government permitting her to carry on her vicious calling. That certificate bore the number 23.

The Commanding Officer of a Regiment in the Bombay Presidency, which had received orders to march, ordered some public women to accompany that regiment. The soldiers attached to the regiment were good men, and they brought the matter to the notice of their Chaplain, who at once went to the Commanding Officer and asked him how, being a Christian, he had ordered women of ill-fame to accompany his regiment.

SAMAYA.
April 20th, 1888.

SAMAYA.

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1888.

The officer replied that he had been compelled to issue that order under instructions from his superior officer.

A large amount of money is expended for the maintenance of Chaplains for the spiritual welfare of the soldiers, and a large amount of money is also expended for the satisfaction of their carnal desires. Thus Government is wasting large sums of money in encouraging vice and is thereby increasing the poverty of the people of India. When will this blot on the British administration in India be removed?

SANJIVANI,
April 21st, 1888.

Coolie recruiting.

79. A correspondent of the same paper says that he lately came across a wicked coolie-recruiter and a number of coolies at Uluberiah, in the Howrah district. On inquiry it was found that the recruiter had completely entrapped the ignorant and illiterate coolies by telling them that Calcutta and Assam were very adjacent places, that some hard-working coolies were required there on large salaries, and that those who should go would be brought back to their villages at the company's expense after the expiration of six months, or if they so desired, after one year. Baboo Raghu Nath Dikhit thus writes from Maliara, a village in the Bankura district:—"Last night the coolie-recruiters enticed away Bepan Maji, the only son of Narayan Maji, of village Maliara."

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 22nd, 1888.

The Telegraph Guide, 1888.

80. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 22nd April, thinks that there are some mistakes in the calculation of time in the Telegraph Guide published on the 1st of April last, and gives the following example of what it considers to be a miscalculation of the time of sun-rise:—The distance between Dacca and Manickganj is only 30 miles; and the difference between the times of sun-rise in the two places has been put down as being one minute. But the same difference for the two places, Manickganj and Goalundo, which are only 17 miles from each other, has been calculated at two minutes. It is hoped that this and all similar mistakes will be soon corrected.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 23rd, 1888.

Dr. Doyal Chandra Shome as Honorary Surgeon to the Viceroy.

81. The *Som Prakash*, of the 23rd April, is exceedingly glad to hear of Dr. Doyal Chandra Shome's appointment as Honorary Physician to the Viceroy. Baboo Dayal Chand is a good physician, and his appointment to the post in question will no doubt give general satisfaction.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 23rd, 1888.

The enforcement of the 55-year rule in the Bengal Civil Secretariat Office.

82. The same paper says, on the authority of the *Indian Mirror* newspaper that some clerks in the Bengal Civil Secretariat Office have been ordered to apply for pension under the 55-year rule and observes that this is a rather strange thing to find in an office where the heads are kept in good humour by their subordinates with presents of fruits, flowers and fish. It is hoped that Sir Stuart Bayley will enquire into the matter.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARAN,
April 23rd, 1888.

Pilgrims to Tarkeswar.

83. The *Navavibhakar Sadharan*, of the 23rd April, says that the large number of pilgrims who go to Tarkeswar on the occasion of the *Charak* and *Sivaratri* festivals are put to great inconvenience on account of insufficient latrine arrangements.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 25th, 1888.

Lord Dufferin.

84. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 25th April, says that the promoters of the movement in honour of Lord Dufferin will now see the mistake they have made by presenting His Lordship with an address 10 months before the time fixed for his departure. For, in addition to not having done anything to deserve an address, His Excellency has now, by granting a certificate to Sir Lepel Griffin, proved himself not to be possessed of that intellectual acuteness with which he had been hitherto credited. It is now clear that in his administration of this country His Excellency has

been guided more by his Secretaries than by his own judgment; and such an administrator is not certainly entitled either to the respect or to the gratitude of the people of India.

URIYA PAPERS.

85. The *Samvādbāhikā*, of the 5th April, expresses great satisfaction at the resolution arrived at by the minor Raja of Mayurbhunj to spend a few days in his native gurb, whither he has proceeded after a long absence.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
April 5th, 1888.

The minor Rajah of Mayurbhunj.

86. The same paper questions the advisability of deputing the Civil Surgeon of Balasore to Cuttack every year to examine the students of the Cuttack Medical School. This being generally done in summer, when cholera cases abound, Balasore station becomes dangerous both to the Natives and the Europeans. It then goes on as follows:—

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

“It has been found out that for a certain number of years cholera has been the most prevalent disease of the season both in town and the mofussil. Though there are a few native practitioners in the Balasore town, their knowledge of medical science is very limited, and in serious cases they invariably consult the Civil Surgeon. Besides, there are a goodly number of American and European ladies and gentlemen in the station who remain helpless when the Civil Surgeon leaves the station. Though they keep their health admirably, they have been often attacked with diseases. We can therefore ill spare our Civil Surgeon. Let them get a Civil Surgeon from Calcutta to conduct the examination of the Cuttack medical students. We hope Mr. Cornish, our Magistrate, will bring the matter to the notice of Government.”

87. The *Utkal Dipikā*, of the 9th April, generally sympathises with the views expressed by the Reverend Sam Sahu in the course of a lecture lately delivered in the presence of a large audience at the Cuttack Printing Company's Hall, to the effect that the natives of Orissa should be more extensively employed in different branches of the Government service in Orissa to the exclusion of all foreign intruders, and that the three portions of Orissa that have been placed under the Bengal, the Madras, and the Central Provinces Governments should be brought under one Provincial Government.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
April 9th, 1888.

88. The same paper makes the following observations in connection with the Act to amend the law relating to imprisonment for debt:—

UTKAL DIPIKA.

“The provision regarding female debtors is very good; but it is doubtful whether the same may be said of the provisions which relate to male debtors. A large number of badly-disposed debtors, to whom imprisonment was a terror, may prove troublesome to creditors, who may hereafter hesitate to lend as freely as they were wont to do.”

89. The same paper in one of its articles reproduces some of the facts and figures embodied in the Canal Revenue Report for 1886-87, and then goes on to make the following remarks:—

UTKAL DIPIKA.

The Orissa Canals.

“From the above it will be found that the canals have made Government a loser in the end, and that there is nothing to show that they have contributed in any way towards the prosperity of the people. To speak the truth, canal complaints are now as rife as before, but they are not brought to the notice of Government by the departmental officers. The causes of the

perceptible increase in the number of five-year leases, and the decrease in the income from water-rates, will be better known by enquiring of the poor ryots than by consulting the departmental authorities. Government may have learnt a good deal from the report of the Canal Commission, but it is a pity that the grievances remain as yet unredressed."

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSHAK,
April 16th, 1888.

90. The *Paridarshak*, of the 16th April, requests the Chief Commissioner of Assam to introduce into that province the system of payment of Government revenue by postal money-order, and thereby to confer a substantial boon upon the people.

Payment of Government revenue by postal money-order.

PARIDARSHAK.

91. A correspondent of the same paper says that the compounder of the Balagunge Dispensary being a Mahomedan, it is not availed of by Hindus of the place to the extent it should be. The authorities are therefore requested to look to the matter.

The Balagunge Dispensary in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK.

92. A correspondent of the same paper says the Burunga School is deteriorating under the management of the present head-master. The head-master is very lazy and makes the boys of the higher classes do much of his own work. The attention of the Deputy Inspector of Schools is drawn to the subject.

The Burunga School in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK.

93. A correspondent of the same paper says that a violent hailstorm passed over Anandpore, Niamatpore, Haripore and the neighbouring villages within the jurisdiction of the Deri station on the 23rd Chaitra (4th April 1888) at 2 P.M. A large amount of property has been destroyed, more than 150 houses have been levelled to the ground, and many trees have been uprooted. Three lives have been lost, and 12 persons are lying in a precarious condition. The hailstorm has destroyed in some villages the entire Sali and Burai paddy crops, and in others three-fourths of the crops. The people are in great distress. Government is requested to relieve the sufferings of the poor people.

A hailstorm.

PARIDARSHAK.

94. Another correspondent of the same paper complains of scarcity of drinking water at Kalkatkhan, a village on the river Piayan in Sylhet. The channel of the river near the village is silted up, and cannot therefore supply pure drinking water to the villagers. The poor inhabitants of the village have petitioned the Local Board for the excavation of a tank in the village, but to no purpose.

Scarcity of water at Kalkatkhan in Sylhet.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 28th April 1888.